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MEMORANDUM

6 February 2001

Takahiko Nakao
via M/S 4292
Texas Instruments Japan, Ltd.

* Reminder *

RE: U.S. Patent Application
Case No.: TIJ-24816 09/019087
Title: Manufacturing Method of Semiconductor IC Device
Inventor(s): Masayuki Yasuda, Kazuo Yamazaki, and Hiroyuki Enomoto

The Patent Office has sent us an Office Action regarding the patent application we filed on your invention. Please review the Office Action, dated February 12, 2001, particularly the parts where the Examiner says that your invention is obvious or anticipated by the prior art. Please let me know:

- (1) Important ways in which your invention differs from the '625 Tsuji and '739 Harari patents (copies attached), more particularly;
- (2) Advantages which are obtained because of differences from these previous patents;
- (3) Any technical errors in the Examiner's arguments, which you happen to spot.

Additionally, I need to know if you are aware of any competitor products that use the same or similar inventive concept in order that I may attempt to expand the claim language to incorporate our competitors' products.

Lastly, if you know of any relevant prior art which you have not disclosed to us previously, do so now.

After you have looked over the cited references, please give me a call at (972) 917-5452, send a note to PC-drop PPCB, or send a message to e-mail address: w-kempler@ti.com. Send your comments as soon as possible, March 6, 2001, so I may formulate an appropriate response.

Please retain all reference materials enclosed (for future use) until you receive a copy of the issued patent. Thanks for your assistance in this matter.

Best regards,

Bill Kempler
Bill Kempler
Deputy Manager
International Patents

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Enclosures: The Office Action - Examiner: Perez
Application as filed
Current Claims & Drawings
U.S. Patent(s): '625 Tsuji and '739 Harari

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